

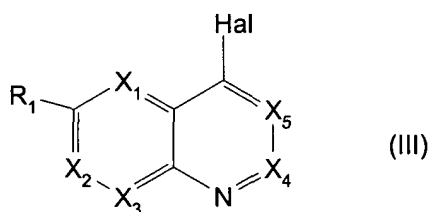
**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please cancel claims 1-19 and add new claims 20-32.

**Complete list of claims**

Claims 1-19 (cancelled)

20. **(New)** A compound of formula (III)



wherein:

X<sub>1</sub> is >C-R'<sub>1</sub>;

X<sub>2</sub> is >C-R'<sub>2</sub>;

X<sub>3</sub> is >C-R'<sub>3</sub>;

X<sub>4</sub> is >C-R'<sub>4</sub>;

X<sub>5</sub> is >C-F;

and, optionally, one of X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>3</sub>, and X<sub>4</sub> is a nitrogen atom;

R<sub>1</sub>, R'<sub>1</sub>, R'<sub>2</sub>, R'<sub>3</sub>, and R'<sub>4</sub> are identical or different, and each independently is:

a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl, cycloalkyl, phenyl, phenylthio, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl or heterocyclylthio, hydroxyl, alkyloxy, trifluoromethoxy, alkylthio, trifluoromethylthio, cycloalkyloxy,

cycloalkylthio, cyano, carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl,  
-NRaRb or -CONRaRb radical

for which Ra and Rb are independently hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl,  
phenyl, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl, or

Ra and Rb form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are  
attached, a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle which can optionally  
contain an additional heteroatom chosen from O, S and N and,  
when the additional heteroatom is N, the additional heteroatom  
optionally is substituted with an alkyl, phenyl or mono- or bicyclic  
aromatic heterocyclyl substituent and, when the additional  
heteroatom is S, the additional heteroatom optionally is sulfinyl or  
sulfonyl,

or a methylene radical substituted with fluoro, hydroxyl, alkyloxy, alkylthio,  
cycloalkyloxy, cycloalkylthio, phenyl, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl,  
carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl, -NRaRb or -CONRaRb

for which Ra and Rb are defined as above, and are additionally chosen  
from phenoxy, heterocyclyloxy, benzyloxy, and heterocyclylmethoxy,  
and, optionally,

R<sub>1</sub> is difluoromethoxy, or a radical of structure -C<sub>m</sub>F<sub>2m+1</sub>, -SC<sub>m</sub>F<sub>2m+1</sub>, or -OC<sub>m</sub>F<sub>2m+1</sub>

wherein m is an integer from 1 to 6;

Hal is chlorine, bromine or iodine;

wherein any alkyl or acyl radical or portion, unless otherwise indicated,

comprises from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in a straight or branched chain, and any

cycloalkyl radical comprises from 3 to 6 carbon atoms;  
with the proviso that the compound of formula (III) is not  
3-fluoro-4-chloro-6,7-dimethoxy-quinoline.

21. **(New)** The compound as claimed in claim 20, wherein Hal is bromine or iodine.
22. **(New)** The compound as claimed in claim 20, wherein Hal is iodine.
23. **(New)** 4-Chloro-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
24. **(New)** 4-Bromo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
25. **(New)** 4-Iodo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
26. **(New)** 3-Fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
27. **(New)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is chlorine, comprising fluorinating the corresponding 4-chloro-quinoline.
28. **(New)** The process according to claim 27, wherein the compound prepared is 4-chloro-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline and the starting material is 4-chloro-6-methoxyquinoline.

29. **(New)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is bromine, comprising brominating the corresponding 3-fluoro-4-hydroxyquinoline.
30. **(New)** The process according to claim 29, wherein the compound prepared is 4-Bromo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
31. **(New)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is iodine, comprising:  
  
contacting the corresponding 3-fluoro-quinoline with a suitable base, and  
  
brominating the product resulting from the previous step.
32. **(New)** The process according to claim 31, wherein the compound prepared is 4-Iodo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline and the starting material is 3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.